

Date Adopted: September 12, 2011

**Town of Concord**

**APP #60**  
**Sustainable Municipal Practices**

**Policy Purpose**

On July 25, 2011, the Concord Board of Selectmen voted to approve the following sustainability principles:

- 1) reduce dependence upon fossil fuels, underground metals, and minerals;
- 2) reduce dependence upon synthetic chemicals and other manufactured substances;
- 3) reduce encroachment upon nature; and
- 4) meet human needs fairly and efficiently.

The Board also voted to ask the Town Manager and Department Heads to report on methods and successes in implementing these principles.

This policy is implemented in pursuit of the Town of Concord's goal of promoting a sustainable future and meeting current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This policy acknowledges the responsibility of Concord's municipal government, in service to the greater Concord community, to protect the quality of the air, water, land and other natural resources, conserve native vegetation, fish, wildlife habitat and other ecosystems and minimize human impacts on local and worldwide ecosystems.

**Implementation**

In furtherance of this policy, Town departments, managers and staff and Town boards and committees shall:

- Promote the reduction of adverse effects on natural resources.
- Include cumulative and long term impacts on sustainability in decision making.
- Take into account the impact on the environment when making decisions regarding growth management, land use, transportation, energy, water, affordable housing, indoor and outdoor air quality and economic development.
- Use resources efficiently and reduce demand for natural resources such as energy, land, and water, rather than expending the supply.
- Prevent additional pollution through planned, proactive measures rather than only corrective action.

- Reduce contributing to adverse impacts of rapid population growth and increased consumption of resources, such as ozone depletion and global warming.
- Support and implement innovative programs that maintain and promote Concord's leadership as a sustainable town.
- Purchase products based on long term environmental and operating costs.
- Purchase products that are durable, reusable, made of recycled materials, and non-toxic.
- Take advantage of community resources to educate citizens, employees and businesses about Concord's sustainable principles.
- Facilitate citizen participation in policy decisions involving sustainable practices, and encourage everyone to take responsibility for their actions that otherwise adversely impact the environment.